for rehabilitation of bonded labourers are fixed for each State every year. The State Governments are required to achieve the targets. The progress in this regard is effectively monitored by the Government. The targets fixed and achievement during the last three years is as under :—

Year	Target fixed for the rehabilitation of BLs.	No. of BLs. rehabilitated
1990-91	3596	2679
1991-92	4109	1824
1992-93	2317	3424

For the current year 1993-94, a target for the rehabilitation of 2179 bonded labourers has been fixed in consultation with the State Governments concerned. Recently, the State Governments of Andhra Pradesh have indicated their willingness to substantially raise their target for the current year.

Norms Regarding Labourers Owned Industry

2482. SHRI TINDIVANAM G. VENKATRAMAN : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have encouraged Labourers owned industries in the past;

(b) if so, what are the norms followed;

(c) what are the daily wages fixed for labourers;

(d) whether Government propose to fix wages common to both men and women labourers;

(e) if so, by when Government propose to initiate the scheme; and

(f) if not, the reasons for discriminatory policy being followed in labourer wages on the question of sex?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P. A. SANGMA) : (a) and (b) government have taken a positive view in the matter of running of industries through labourer co-operatives. No uniform norms can be prescribed as the requirements would vary from case to case. Revival of sick industrial companies through workers' co-operative is one of the measures envisaged in the Sick Industrial Companies (Special Provisions) Act, 1985.

(c) Minimum wage rates are fixed for different schedules of employments by the appropriate Governments.

(d) to (f) Government have already enacted the Equal Remuneration Act, 1976 for the purpose of prevention of discrimination on account of sex in the matter of payment of wages.

Labour Migrants returning to the Country

2483. DR. NARREDDY THULASI REDDY : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) what is the numbner of labourer migrants who returned to the country during 1992-93; and

(b) what rehabilitation measures have been taken by Government for them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P. A. SANGMA) : (a) The statistics of returning labourer migrants are not maintained.

(b) Such persons are entitled to all facilities and support from Banks and financial institutions for undertaking any viable economic activity within the guidelines laid by the Reserve Bank of India.

Functioning of Employment Exchanges

2484. SHRI SANGH PRIYA GAUTAM : DR. NAUNIHAL SINGH : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether the employment exchanges ensure employment;

(b) if not, what is the justification for their continued existence;

(c) whether it is a fact that nearly 0.33 percent of the unemployed on the live register of employment exchanges found placement during the period January—June, 1992;

(d) if so, what are the reasons for this poor placement, when unemployment is rising high in the country; and

(e) whether Government are considering to abolish the employment exchanges and if so, the details thereof?